

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11 52: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING

FROM SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN

1. THIS MESSAGE REQUESTS FURTHER GUIDANCE ON YOUR PREFERENCES FOR THE CONDUCT OF SUBSTANTIVE WORK AT THE OTTAWA MINISTERIAL MEETING.

2. WE HAVE PRESSED WITH LUNS THE PROPOSAL WE EARLIER SUPPORTED IN NATO THAT, TO FACILITATE FREER AND MORE PRODUCTIVE EXCHANGES, MINISTERS SHOULD ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS SERIATIM AND BE ENCOURAGED TO FOREGO READING OF SET-PIECE STATEMENTS. BASED ON SUBSEQUENT NAC DISCUSSIONS, IT APPEARS SEVERAL MINISTERS MAY WISH EITHER TO READ SUCH STATEMENTS OR TO CIRCULATE THEM IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING. OUR NATO MISSION HAS SUGGESTED THAT MINISTERS WISHING TO MAKE GENERAL STATEMENTS AT THE MEETING SHOULD DO SO AFTER RPT AFTER DISCUSSION OF INDIVIDUAL SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA ITEMS.

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3. SINCE AT LEAST SOME OF YOUR COLLEAGUES WILL MAKE OR

CIRCULATE GENERAL STATEMENTS, THE QUESTION ARISES WHETHER YOU SHOULD DO SO AS WELL. SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLACE THE MAIN SUBSTANTIVE TOPICS

(ATLANTIC RELATIONS, EAST-WEST ISSUES, MEDITERRANEAN AND MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS) WITHIN INTEGRATED CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK. HOWEVER, YOUR COLLEAGUES ARE ALREADY GENERALLY FAMILIAR WITH OUR VIEWS ON THE INTERRELATIONSHIP OF THESE ISSUES FROM SERIES OF PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN POLICY REPORTS AND FROM YOUR OWN STATEMENTS. MOREOVER, IF YOU MAKE A GENERAL STATEMENT, IT WOULD LIKELY COVER THE MAJOR ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED UNDER EACH AGENDA ITEM AND PERHAPS LEAVE LITTLE TO BE ADDED WHEN THESE ITEMS ARE TAKEN-UP INDIVIDUALLY. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT YOU NOT RPT NOT MAKE A GENERAL STATEMENT OR CIRCULATE ONE IN ADVANCE, AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR GUIDANCE.

4. YOU HAVE ALSO CONCURRED (SECTO 602) IN LUNS' SUGGESTION THAT THE MINISTERIAL BEGIN WITH AN HOUR-LONG PRIVATE SESSION OF MINISTERS PLUS PERMREPS ON JUNE 18, AND WE HAVE ASKED RUMSFELD TO CONVEY YOUR AGREEMENT TO LUNS. THE QUESTION REMAINS WHAT TOPICS SHOULD BE TAKEN-UP DURING THE PRIVATE MEETING TO ENCOURAGE A PRODUCTIVE EXCHANGE.

5. SINCE THE NATO MINISTERIAL WILL TAKE PLACE SHORTLY BEFORE THE US-SOVIET SUMMIT, OTHER MINISTERS WILL EXPECT YOU TO DISCUSS WHAT WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE IN MOSCOW. BECAUSE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF THIS TOPIC, YOU MAY WISH TO RESERVE IT FOR THE PRIVATE MEETING. IF YOU AGREE, WE WOULD PROPOSE TO INFORM LUNS AND THE NATO PERMREPS OF YOUR PLANS. IF OTHER MINISTERS KNOW IN ADVANCE THAT YOU WILL TALK ABOUT THE MOSCOW SUMMIT AT THE PRIVATE MEETING, THEY MAY BE BETTER PREPARED TO TAKE PART IN A USEFUL AND FRANK EXCHANGE ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS. RUSH

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